

Remarks

In furtherance of the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this Application and consideration of the foregoing amendment, which is hereby submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.114 and 1.116(a).

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-35 are pending in the application, with 1, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 26, and 32 being the independent claims. Claim 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 16-35 are amended, without prejudice to or disclaimer of any subject matter canceled therein. Support for these changes can be found, inter alia, on pages 67-74 (especially, page 68, lines 10-23; and page 73, lines 3-14) of the Specification, and FIGs. 19, 30, and 31 of the Drawings. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Personal Interview with Examiner

A personal interview was held on Tuesday, August 26, 2003, between Examiner Huynh-Ba, co-inventor Alex Holtz, and Applicants' representatives Michael Q. Lee (Registration No. 35,239), Kendrick Patterson (Registration. No. 45,321), and Molly McCall (Registration No. 46,126). Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for a helpful and constructive interview.

During the interview, Applicants' representatives explained the differences between the present application and the applied documents of record, namely U.S. Patent No. 6,038,573 to Parks (herein referred to as "Parks"). A recitation of differences are described in detail below with respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Applicants' representatives also discussed the Supplemental Declaration by Alex Holtz (filed on December 10, 2002). Applicants agreed to review the Supplemental Declaration to determine if modifications are required in light of the amendments made herein. Upon reflection, Applicants do not believe that the Declaration requires any modifications because the amended claims recite "creating segment files" and "distributing video enhancements," which are also mentioned in the previously filed Supplemental Declaration (see Paragraph 19 of the Supplemental Declaration).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,038,573 to Parks (herein referred to as "Parks"). Although Applicants respectfully disagree, Applicants believe the Examiner's rejections are no longer valid and/or have been rendered moot by the proposed amendments.

Referring to the independent claims (namely, claims 1, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 26, and 32), Applicants have amended the claims to more clearly recite features that are not taught by Parks. For example, with respect to claim 1, Parks does not describe a method or system for:

(a) enabling creation of an instruction sequence for the show, wherein said instruction sequence defines one or more sets of production commands, said one or more sets of **production commands comprising one or more segment files**, each of said segment files comprising a group of production commands that, when executed, operates to produce a segment of the show, **each segment file comprising scripted portions that include commands activated in relation to a script and non-scripted portions that include commands activated independent of a script**, each segment **having a duration which is defined by execution of said instruction sequence under the control of a human operator.**

Parks appears to describe a system that manages the workflow processes associated with a newsroom operation. (See Parks, Col. 2, lines 46-49). More specifically, Parks describes a markup language that manages the distribution of news story information to journalists, producers, directors, announcers, and other members of a production crew. (See Parks, Col. 1, lines 25-28; and Col. 6, lines 17-26). The news story information includes a news story document that can be stored at a server (Col. 6, lines 17-20), edited by an editor (Col. 6, line 63-67), or displayed on a teleprompter to be read by an announcer (Col. 8, lines 39-41). Parks teaches that its markup language can associate machine codes with a news story document. (Col. 8, lines 33-35).

However, unlike the claimed invention, Parks does not describe a method or system having a set of “production commands that, when executed, operates to produce a segment of show, each segment file comprising scripted portions that include commands activated in relation to a script and non-scripted portions that include commands activated independent of a script.” Parks’ machine codes are not executable to “**produce** a segment of a show.” Even if Parks taught or suggest that its machine codes are executable to produce a segment of a show, which it does not, Parks clearly does not teach or suggest “each segment file comprising scripted portions that include commands activated in relation to a script and non-scripted portions that include commands activated independent of a script.” Parks’ machine codes are associate with a teleprompter script which is read by an announcer. The machine codes are not

independent of the script, and Parks does not teach or suggest control of any non-scripted portions of a production.

Additionally, Parks does not teach or suggest “each segment having a duration which is defined by execution of said instruction sequence under the control of a human operator.” Since, as argued above, Parks does not teach or suggest an “instruction sequence” that “defines one or more sets of production commands” that “produces a segment of a show,” it follows that Parks cannot teach that the “execution of said instruction sequence under the control of a human operator” defines the duration of “each segment.”

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Parks does not teach or suggest Applicants’ claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner’s rejection of the aforesaid claims, and allowance thereof.

Conclusion

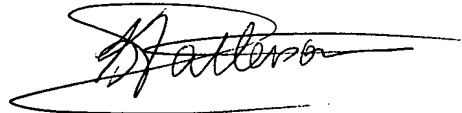
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for

allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Patterson", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

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